

E-002/RP-93-630; E-002/CI-93-6 ORDER EXTENDING COMMENT PERIODS

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Don Storm	Chair
Tom Burton	Commissioner
Marshall Johnson	Commissioner
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner

In the Matter of Northern States
Power Company's Application for
Resource Plan Approval 1994-2008

ISSUE DATE: December 30, 1993

DOCKET NO. E-002/RP-93-630

In the Matter of an
Investigation into Establishing
a Bidding Process to Select
Resources to Meet the Future
Capacity Needs of Northern
States Power Company

DOCKET NO. E-002/CI-93-6

ORDER EXTENDING COMMENT PERIODS

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On December 9, 1993 the Commission issued its ORDER CONSOLIDATING DOCKETS AND REQUIRING FURTHER FILINGS in the above-entitled matters. That Order consolidated Northern States Power Company's integrated resource planning docket and an earlier docket established to examine the role competitive bidding should play in the Company's acquisition of future capacity. The Order required the Company to file specific information on its competitive bidding program with its response comments due in the resource planning docket on January 3, 1994.

On December 16, 1993 the Company filed a request to extend until January 31 the deadline for filing the information required under the December 9 Order and to extend to the same date the deadline for all parties' response comments dealing with competitive bidding. The Company stated that other parties' initial comments on bidding issues had been extensive, that it needed more time to fully analyze those comments, and that it wished to meet with the parties to discuss their concerns.

No party opposed the requested time extension. The matter came before the Commission on December 22, 1993.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Administrative efficiency requires giving the Company the time necessary to perfect its bidding proposal and postponing all parties' response comments on competitive bidding issues. Enforcing the deadlines of the December 9 Order would benefit no one. It would misallocate resources by requiring premature filings and comments on premature filings. It would ultimately prolong this proceeding by delaying the Company's final bidding proposal. The Commission will grant the extension of time and will adjust the other comment periods accordingly.

ORDER

1. Northern States Power Company shall file the bidding information required under the December 9 Order on or before January 31, 1994.
2. Response comments relating to competitive bidding shall be filed on or before January 31, 1994.
3. Comments on the Company's January 31 filing shall be filed on or before March 2, 1994.
4. Company comments on parties' filings under paragraph 3 shall be filed on or before March 17, 1994.
5. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)